

Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

October 25, 2005

Contact: Patrick Lacefield 240-777-7939 or Jean Arthur 240-777-7934

COUNCIL APPROVES BILL TO GIVE BUSINESS TAX CREDIT FOR TELECOMMUTING

The Montgomery County Council today approved a measure that would allow businesses to take a credit against County taxes for computers purchased for their telecommuting employees.

The legislation, co-sponsored by Councilmembers Howard Denis and Marilyn Praisner, would pay up to 50 percent of the cost of each personal computer purchased, up to an annual total credit of \$2000. Employers must certify that the computers are used for business purposes and that the employees using the computer work from home at least 78 days per year – or 1.5 days a week.

"The promotion of telecommuting is an important part of the County's efforts to relieve traffic congestion," said Councilmember Howard Denis. "Every employee who works from home represents one less car on our highways."

"This tax credit will give a helping hand to County businesses, especially small businesses, that can use telecommuting," said Councilmember Marilyn Praisner. "Every little bit we can do to strengthen or expand telecommuting can help keep folks off the roads, especially during rush hours."

###

N E W S

> R E L

A S E

Ε